

107TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. CON. RES. 240

Expressing the sense of Congress with respect to the urgency of providing food and agricultural development assistance to civilian men, women, and children in Afghanistan, including Afghan refugees, and to the civilian populations of other countries in the central Asia region, including Pakistan, Iran, Kyrgyzstan, Turkmenistan, Tajikistan, and Uzbekistan.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

OCTOBER 2, 2001

Ms. KAPTUR (for herself, Mr. MCGOVERN, Mr. HALL of Ohio, Ms. MCKINNEY, Mr. FARR of California, and Mr. UDALL of New Mexico) submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was referred to the Committee on International Relations

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

Expressing the sense of Congress with respect to the urgency of providing food and agricultural development assistance to civilian men, women, and children in Afghanistan, including Afghan refugees, and to the civilian populations of other countries in the central Asia region, including Pakistan, Iran, Kyrgyzstan, Turkmenistan, Tajikistan, and Uzbekistan.

Whereas Afghanistan is the poorest country in Asia with more than 5,000,000 people on the brink of survival due to a severe food shortage;

Whereas two-thirds of Afghanistan's population lives in rural areas of the country;

Whereas Afghanistan has experienced three years of drought;

Whereas the level of Afghanistan's harvest for 2001 is at 51 percent of the level of a harvest for a normal year;

Whereas immediate food assistance to the people of Afghanistan is necessary to enable local food distribution to take place before winter begins;

Whereas immediate food assistance will enable the Afghan people to remain in Afghanistan thereby preventing the likely expansion of internally displaced persons or refugees destined for neighboring central Asian countries;

Whereas other countries in the central Asia region, such as Pakistan, Iran, Kyrgyzstan, Turkmenistan, Tajikistan, and Uzbekistan, are also mainly rural countries and have also experienced drought conditions and food shortages which have been and will continue to be greatly exacerbated by a growing refugee population; and

Whereas alleviating the food crisis of Afghanistan's citizens and refugees is in the national security interests of the United States: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate*
2 *concurring)*, That is the sense of Congress that—

3 (1) the United States should provide immediate
4 food and agricultural development assistance to civil-
5 ian men, women, and children in Afghanistan, in-
6 cluding Afghan refugees, and to the civilian popu-
7 lations of other countries in the central Asia region,
8 such as Pakistan, Iran, Kyrgyzstan, Turkmenistan,

1 Tajikistan, and Uzbekistan, including through the
2 full resumption of food assistance under the United
3 Nations World Food Program; and

4 (2) the United States should promptly assist in
5 providing appropriate security for refugees and hu-
6 manitarian aid workers who are providing such food
7 assistance in Afghanistan and such other countries
8 in the central Asia region.

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